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Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Letter dated 8 February 2001 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

I have the honour to refer to the note verbale of 6 February 2001, enclosed herein (see annex), sent by the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the United States Mission to the United Nations. I have the honour to request that you, in your capacity of Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Committee.

(*Signed*) Rafael **Dausá Céspedes**
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 8 February 2001 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United States Mission to the United Nations and wishes to refer to the issue of the travel limitations and restrictions imposed by the authorities of the host country upon some permanent missions accredited to the United Nations, including the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations, as well as on staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities.

On 31 January 2001, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations submitted to the United States Mission a travel authorization request beyond the 25-mile zone in favour of Mr. Rafael Dausá Céspedes, Deputy Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations, in response to an invitation of the International Education Office of Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

The authorities of the host country orally denied the travel authorization request using the argument that the trip of the Ambassador of Cuba had no relation whatsoever to the official business of the United Nations.

This practice is the more incongruent in the light of the successive resolutions adopted by consensus by the General Assembly, under the item related to the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country. In total disregard of the provisions of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions, the host country continues to impose travel restrictions arbitrarily and for political motives on the staff of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations denounces the failure of the Government of the United States of America to comply bona fide with the recommendations and decisions of the General Assembly and requests the authorities of the host country to take the necessary steps in full compliance with international law, to give a satisfactory reply to the repeated demands by the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations that its rights be respected in relation to the travel control being imposed on its staff members.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United States Mission to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.